being relayed by an HPT at Calcutta and an LPT at Murshidabad. There are no approved schemes, at present, to set up DD-2 transmitters anywhere in Barddhaman, Birbhum, Bankura and Purulia districts of West Bengal.

Shortfall in Seating/Berth Capacity in Trains

3549. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any systematic assessment of the shortfall in seating/berth capacity in trains going from Delhi/New Delhi to Mumbai, Bangalore, Jammu Tawi, Calcutta, Bhubaneswar and Guwahati has been made;

(b) if so, the shortfall in seating/berth capacity of trains going to the above destinations from Delhi/New Delhi from May 1, 1997 to June 30, 1997 i.e. the estimated capacity plus the unsatisfied waiting lists separately for each destinations; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (c) the waiting list position of the trains is monitored on day-to-day basis. In order to clear the extra rush of traffic during the summer months, i.e. May and June, Railways ran a weekly special to Mumbai, tri-weekly to Calcutta and daily to Jammu Tawi in addition to the augmentation of regular services. Besides, regular service including the Rajdhanis for Guwahati, Bhubaneswar and Bangalore were augmented to the extant justified and feasible. In case of heavy rush, occasional special trains were also run to these places during the period.

Broadcast of Indian Standard Time

3550. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the clocks being used at railway stations have since become obsolete in view of the introduction of Indian Standard Time through satellite INSAT by NPL, New Delhi; and

(b) the reasons for not introducing this system of indicating time by the Indian Railway at railway stations?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The clocks provided at stations are regularly adjusted and synchronised daily with the clock installed in the office of Section Controllers at a pre-determined time. The accuracy of clocks provided at Railway Stations is considered good enough for the purpose of day to day train operations. Introduction of Indian Standard Time through satellite INSAT, which gives an accuracy of 5 micro seconds, is not considered necessary for the train operations at the moment.

[Translation]

Conversion of Passenger Trains into EMU

3551. SHRI LINGARAJ VALYAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to convert all the passenger trains into EMU;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Non-availability of infrastructure necessary for EMU trains, operational and resource constraints.

[English]

Violation of Safety Rules

3552. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a complaint regarding rampant corruption and violation of safety rules was submitted by the then Divisional President of All India Station Masters' Association to Chief Vigilance Officer, Eastern Railway, Calcutta;

(b) whether facts of the said complaint had been probed into by the Vigilance Section; and

(c) if so, the findings thereof and action taken against the guilty persons?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Expansion of Refinery's Capacity by NALCO

3553. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :

Will be Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken by the National Aluminium Company (NALCO) to improve its performance;

(b) the details of debts position of NALCO as on March 31, 1997;

(c) the time by which the above public sector company is expected to achieve Zero debt status;

(d) whether the company has completed its first phase of expansion programme;